



State of New Hampshire  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095  
(603) 271-3406 FAX (603) 271-7894



February 3, 2003

Letter of Deficiency  
DSP #03-007

Mr. Chris Countie  
Pennichuck Water Works  
P.O. Box 448  
4 Water Street  
Nashua, NH 03061

RE: Bowers Dam #165.04, Nashua

Dear Mr. Countie:

The Department of Environmental Services, Dam Bureau (DES) consistently strives to enhance the safety of dams in New Hampshire through its dam safety program. One of the many instruments that plays a part in reaching this goal is our inspection program. DES is forwarding this correspondence to you to advise you that in accordance with RSA 482:12 and Env-Wr 502.02, an inspection of the subject dam was conducted on October 10, 2002. During this visual inspection and/or file review, the following deficiencies were observed:

There are piezometers located at the dam. It is not known if data is collected from them regularly;

2. There is brush on the downstream side of the left embankment;
3. There are trees on the right embankment crest adjacent to the chain link fence and on the downstream slope;

The Emergency Action Plan (EAP) has not been update; and

The operations and maintenance plan needs updating. At a minimum, the contact names and numbers should be checked and updated as necessary.

DES believes that the above deficiencies can be corrected by performing the following items by the indicated schedule:

**April 1, 2003:**

1. Report to the DES if data is collected from the piezometers on a regular basis. IF data is not collected the O&M plan should be amended to include regular water level measurements in the piezometers;
2. Remove the brush from the left downstream embankment crest and establish a hearty grass cover;
3. Remove the brush from the right embankment crest adjacent to the chain link fence and from the downstream slope;

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4. Test and update the EAP. Please contact Bethann McCarthy at 271-4167 before updating your EAP, for assistance in determining what changes may be necessary; and

Update and submit the O&M plan.

DES is requesting that you complete and submit the attached "Intent to Complete Repairs" form, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, that will provide for correction of the identified deficiencies by the date(s) indicated above. If you believe changes to the items of work or dates are necessary, please make the changes directly on the form and provide a brief explanation. We have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope for you to return this form.

After our file review as well as our site review DES has determined that the deficiencies included in the April 1999 LOD have been completed. You are in full compliance with the 1999 LOD. Please refer to the enclosed copy for your reference.

Our intent in sending you this correspondence is to make you aware of items that DES believes warrant your attention to insure the continued safe operation of your dam. It is our hope that, through the submittal of the attached form and a commitment to keeping a well-maintained dam, you will voluntarily comply with the requested items of work. If we do not receive the intent form or a similarly adequate written reply, we will assume that you are in agreement with our findings and recommendations and DES will carry out follow-up inspections accordingly.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this Letter of Deficiency or would like to be present at future inspections, please contact me at 271-3406, or write to the Water Division at the address listed on the top of the previous page.

Sincerely,

**COPY**

Jeffrey M. Blaney  
Dam Safety Engineer

Attachments Copy of O&M on file, DB8, DB13

cc: Gretchen Rule ✓

Bethann McCarthy, P.E., EAP Coordinator  
City of Nashua

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JMB/was/h:/safety/wendy/lod/165-04lod.doc